

STATE OF MONTANA  
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

FUR ANIMAL SEASONS FOR 1978-1979  
GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

TAKING OF FUR ANIMALS DURING THE OPEN SEASON BY ANY MEANS OTHER THAN TRAPPING OR SNARING IS PROHIBITED, UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.  
TRAPPING LICENSES: May be obtained through application to the following regional offices of the Department of Fish and Game by sending in your name, address, Conservation License number, and \$10 fee:

Region 1 - 490 N. Meridian Rd., Kalispell 59901	Region 5 - 1125 Lake Elmo Drive, Billings 59101
Region 2 - 3309 Brooks, Missoula 59801	Region 6 - RR 1 - 210, Glasgow 59230
Region 3 - Route 3, Box 274, Bozeman 59715	Region 7 - Box 430, Miles City 59301
Region 4 - Route 4, Box 243, Great Falls 59405	

GENERAL TRAPPER'S LICENSE: Available to RESIDENTS only - \$10 fee.

LANDOWNER'S TRAPPER'S LICENSE: (Includes beaver.) Applicants must give legal description of land owned or leased, name, address, Resident Conservation License number, and \$1 fee.

TRAPPERS MUST OBTAIN PERMISSION OF LANDOWNER BEFORE TRAPPING ON PRIVATELY-OWNED LAND.

TAGGING TRAPS & SNARES: Any person trapping fur-bearing animals or predatory animals for their pelts shall fasten a metal tag to all such traps or snares bearing in legible English the name and address of the trapper, except that no tag shall be required on traps or snares used by landowners trapping with permit on their own lands and irrigation ditch right-of-way contiguous to the land.

MARTEN SHIPPING PERMIT: Any person who desires to ship, take, or transport marten out of state in any manner must obtain a free marten shipping permit from any regional office or state game warden.

POSSESSION OF LIVE FUR-BEARING ANIMALS: Live fur-bearing animals may not be possessed except under the provisions of fur farm or roadside zoo permit.

FUR DEALER'S LICENSE: Resident Fur Dealer - \$10; Fur Dealer Agent - \$10; Nonresident Fur Dealer - \$50.

FUR DEALER DEFINED: Any person or persons, firm, company or corporation engaging in carrying on, or conducting wholly or in part the business of buying or selling, trading, or dealing within the state of Montana, in the skins or pelts of any animal or animals, designated by the laws of Montana as fur-bearing or predatory animals, shall be deemed a fur dealer within the meaning of the act. If such fur dealer resides in or if his or its principal place of business is within the state of Montana, he or it shall be deemed a resident fur dealer. All other fur dealers shall be deemed nonresident fur dealers.

DESTROYING BEAVER AND MUSKRAT HOUSES: It is unlawful for any person to willfully destroy, open or leave open, or partially destroy a house of muskrat or beaver, except that this shall not prohibit trapping in the house of muskrats when authorized by the Commission.

CLOSED TO ALL TRAPPING: Portions of Little Willow, Big Willow, and Ford Creeks in Lewis & Clark County as posted. All National Parks, National Wildlife Refuges, and Indian allotted or tribal lands except as otherwise specified. Permits to trap on National Wildlife Refuges may be issued by the Refuge Manager. For trapping privileges on other than Blackfeet, Cheyenne, and Flathead Indian Reservations, see local agency in question.

ALL STATE GAME PRESERVES ARE OPEN TO TRAPPING

PLEASE NOTE: A number of fur-bearing animals have been ear tagged for scientific study. If one of these animals is captured, please notify the nearest game warden or regional office of the tag number or numbers and the locality of the capture.

It is suggested that all traps be checked at least once every 48 hours.

Trapping on Department of Fish & Game lands will be allowed by written authorization of the Area Manager or a department employee on lands not having a resident manager.

Please note the law change on landowners being allowed to trap beaver on landowner's permit.

FUR ANIMAL SEASONS

MINK: Open Season: November 10, 1978, through December 31, 1978, inclusive.

MUSKRAT: Open Season: November 10, 1978, through April 30, 1979, inclusive. Traps may be set in muskrat houses provided the part removed is replaced after insertion of the trap; this also to be done after removal of the trap. It is unlawful for any person at any time to willfully destroy, leave open, or partially destroy any muskrat house.

MARTEN: Open Season: December 1, 1978, through February 28, 1979, inclusive. Marten pelts must be tagged by the game warden residing in the district where pelts were taken no later than twenty (20) days after close of open season.

OTTER: Open Season: November 10, 1978, through April 30, 1979, inclusive. LIMIT: Trappers may take and possess only one (1) otter each per season. Otter pelts must be tagged by the game warden residing in the district where pelts were taken no later than twenty (20) days after close of open season.

CLOSED TO OTTER TRAPPING: The Yellowstone River from the Yellowstone Park boundary to the North Dakota state line. The Missouri River from Virgelle to the North Dakota state line.

FISHER: Closed.

BOBCAT-CANADA LYNX: Open Season: December 1, 1978, through February 28, 1979, inclusive. A General Trapper's or Landowner's Trapper's License is required for bobcat. No trapping license is required for Canada Lynx. LIMIT: Trappers may take and possess one (1) bobcat and one (1) Canada Lynx OR two (2) bobcats OR two (2) Canada Lynx per season. Bobcat and Canada Lynx pelts must be tagged by the game warden residing in the district where pelts were taken, prior to their sale or transfer of possession, but no later than twenty (20) days after close of open season.

WOLVERINE: Open Season: December 1, 1978, through February 28, 1979, inclusive. No trapping license required. LIMIT: Persons may take and possess only one (1) wolverine each per season and have same tagged by the game warden residing in the district where wolverine was taken no later than twenty (20) days after close of open season. Carcasses are to be given to Fish & Game.

Lynx, bobcat, and wolverine may be taken only by a permit available without charge at all Department of Fish & Game regional headquarters. Applications for such permits must be made prior to December 1, 1978.

Dogs may be used in the taking of bobcat and lynx, in addition to taking by trapping, snaring, hunting, or shooting.

Untagged hides of lynx, bobcat, or wolverine that are not covered by a current permit or that have not been presented to a Fish and Game warden for tagging within 20 days after close of season will be subject to confiscation.

Hides of wolverine presented for tagging that are not accompanied by the carcass will be subject to confiscation.

GENERAL BEAVER SEASON REGULATIONS: Owners and lessees of real estate being damaged by beaver may apply for a permit to trap beaver under other provisions of the law. Please see your local game warden for further information.

Open Season: October 15, 1978, through April 30, 1979: Fish & Game Administrative Regions 3, 5, 6, and 7.  
November 10, 1978, through April 30, 1979: Fish & Game Administrative Regions 1, 2, and 4.

Permits: Only persons in possession of 1978-79 General Trapper's License may participate in a general beaver season.

Limit: West of Continental Divide: In the following counties or portions of counties lying west of the Continental Divide, the limit shall be 15 beaver per trapper: Deer Lodge, Granite, those portions of Lewis & Clark and Powell excluding the Flathead drainage, Mineral, that portion of Missoula lying south of the Swan-Clearwater Divide, and Ravalli.

In the following counties or portions of counties lying west of the Continental Divide, the limit shall be 10 beaver per trapper: Flathead, Lake, those portions of Lewis & Clark and Powell lying within the Flathead River drainage, that portion of Missoula lying north of the Swan-Clearwater Divide, Lincoln, and Sanders.

East of the Continental Divide: Unlimited.

CLOSED TO BEAVER TRAPPING:

Broadwater County: Those portions of Dry Creek, Confederate Gulch, White Gulch, and Avalanche Creek on public land.

Lewis & Clark and Powell Counties: Entire East Fork of the Blackfoot River drainage. Landers Fork drainage above its confluence with Bighorn Creek.

Mineral County: Entire Fish Creek drainage and entire St. Regis River drainage. (Landowner permits may be issued by local warden in case of damage complaints.)

Phillips County: Those portions of Lodgepole, Beaver, and Camp Creeks on public land within the Little Rocky Mountains.

BLACK-FOOTED FERRET: Protected and classified as an endangered species in Montana.

PLEASE NOTE

Any trapper interested in trapping fur bearers (primarily muskrats) at Freezout Lake during the 1978-79 trapping season should submit their names and addresses and 1978-79 trapping license number to the Montana Department of Fish and Game, Freezout Lake Management Area, Box 482, Fairfield, Montana, by October 1, 1978. A list will be tabulated and a machine drawing will be held to establish a priority list for the assignment of trapping areas in the Freezout area.

STATE FISH & GAME COMMISSION



BY: ROBERT F. WAMBACH, SECRETARY  
August 7, 1978



### WOLVERINE ANNUAL RULE

The Department of Fish and Game participating in investigations on wolverine, a species of nongame wildlife, finds it necessary to promulgate the following rule as provided in Section 26-1804 and 26-1807, in order to develop biological and ecological data to determine management measures necessary for the wolverines' continued ability to sustain themselves successfully.

By order of the Montana Fish and Game Commission:

Wolverine taken alive must be reported within ten (10) days of the date of capture. The live wolverine must be kept at a reported location for a period of thirty (30) days during which time the wolverine shall be available for inspection and measurement and such other data gathering as is necessary by Department of Fish and Game personnel.

Wolverine which are killed by any person must be reported to the nearest Department of Fish and Game employee within twenty (20) days of such taking. In addition, the hide must be presented for tagging and the entire carcass must be turned over to the Department of Fish and Game and shall remain the property of the state.

LIMIT: One wolverine per person per year.

SEASON: December 1, 1978, through February 28, 1979.

It is the intent of this rule that every wolverine killed or captured shall be reported to the Department of Fish and Game and made available for biological study as necessary to meet the requirements of the provisions of Section 26-1804.

STATE FISH AND GAME COMMISSION



BY: ROBERT F. WAMBACH, SECRETARY  
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